



Bits on the rotating cutting head rip into the coal seam breaking it into pieces.



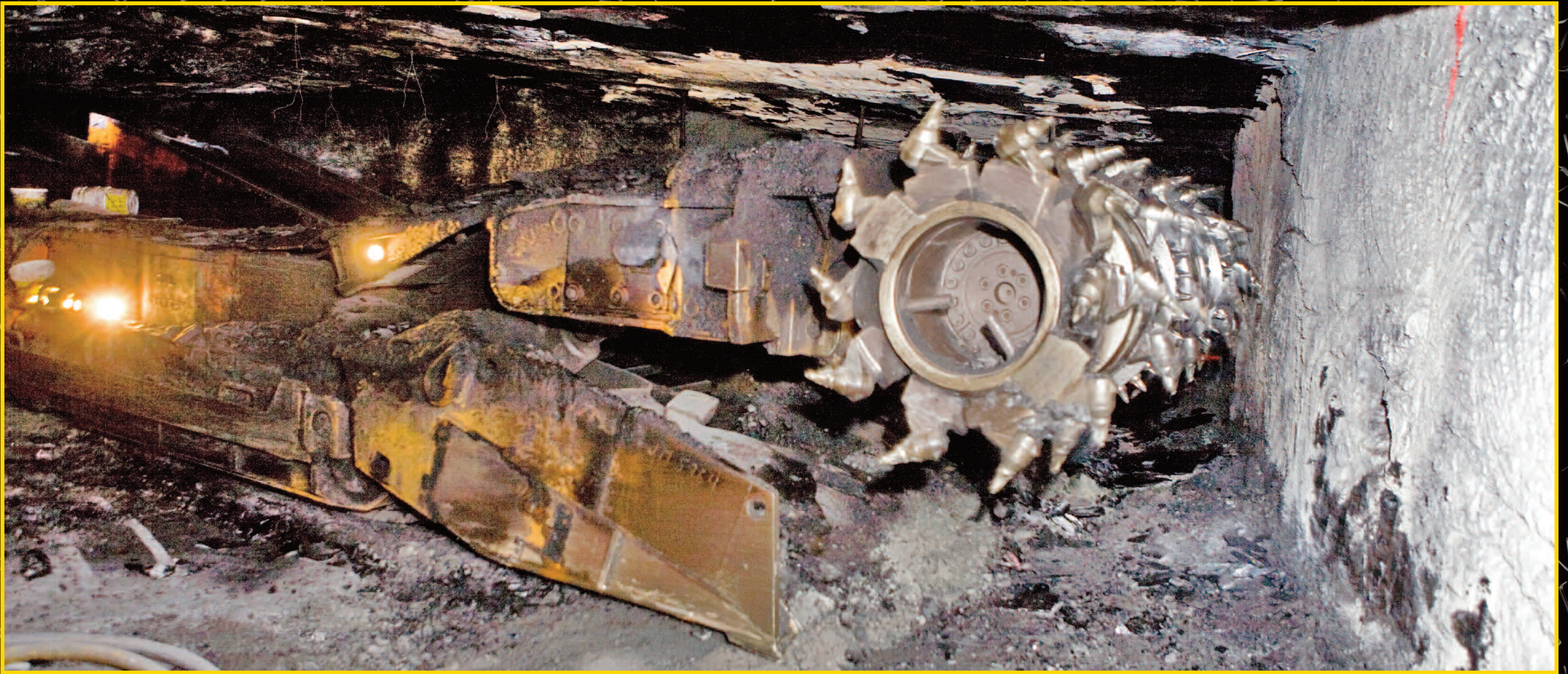
Rotating arms in the pan under the head sweep the coal onto a conveyor chain.



A fine water spray behind each bit reduces respirable coal dust and the potential for friction ignitions.

Underground Mining

CONTINUOUS MINER EQUIPMENT



The workhorse of a room-and-pillar mine, the continuous miner will cut 17 - 32 tons of coal per minute. The machine weighs 65 tons and stands just 39 1/2 inches high. It's two 950 volt cutting motors are run by remote control.



The cutting head is 44 inches in diameter and cuts a swath 10'10" wide.



The miner makes two forty-foot cuts into the coal seam.



The operator stands a safe distance away while operating the miner by remote control.



Coal moves along the conveyor chain and is loaded into a ram car.



The pick axe and shovel have been replaced by a remote control box for cutting and loading coal.



The tail section of the miner can be raised, lowered and moved side to side.



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